

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1218

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide assistance for cities hosting international sporting events taking place in the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 1 (legislative day, MARCH 31), 2025

Mr. MORAN (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide assistance for cities hosting international sporting events taking place in the United States, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Transportation Assist-
5 ance for Olympic and World Cup Cities Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE FOR INTER-**
 2 **NATIONAL SPORTING EVENTS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 55 of title 49, United
 4 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 5501
 5 the following:

6 **“§ 5502. Transportation assistance for international**
 7 **sporting events**

8 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to
 9 support State, Tribal, and local efforts on transportation
 10 issues necessary to obtain the national recognition and
 11 economic benefits of hosting international sporting events
 12 in the United States.

13 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 “(1) COVERED EVENT.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘covered
 16 event’ means an Olympic event, Paralympic
 17 event, Special Olympics event, FIFA Men’s
 18 World Cup event, or FIFA Women’s World Cup
 19 event that is held at a site within the United
 20 States (including any territory of the United
 21 States) that has been selected by the Inter-
 22 national Olympic Committee or the Inter-
 23 national Federation of Association Football to
 24 hold such event.

25 “(B) GROUPING.—Multiple events de-
 26 scribed in subparagraph (A) occurring in the

1 same stadium, city, metropolitan planning area
 2 (as defined in section 134(b) of title 23), or
 3 metropolitan statistical area (as designated by
 4 the Director of the Office of Management and
 5 Budget) as part of the same overall competi-
 6 tion, sporting event, or grouping of competi-
 7 tions or sporting events shall be considered to
 8 be 1 covered event.

9 “(C) EXCLUSION.—The term ‘covered
 10 event’ does not include activities relating to pre-
 11 paring or submitting a bid to be selected to
 12 hold an event described in subparagraph (A).

13 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
 14 tity’ means—

15 “(A) a State, Indian Tribe, or unit of local
 16 government (including a port authority or tran-
 17 sit agency) hosting a covered event;

18 “(B) a State, Indian Tribe, or unit of local
 19 government (including a port authority or tran-
 20 sit agency) that—

21 “(i) is supporting a covered event; and

22 “(ii) owns a transportation facility or
 23 provides a transportation service that is lo-
 24 cated not more than 100 miles from the lo-

1 cation in which the applicable covered
2 event is or will be held;

3 “(C) a metropolitan planning organization
4 that serves an area that—

5 “(i) is under the jurisdiction of a
6 State, Indian Tribe, or unit of local gov-
7 ernment described in subparagraph (A) or
8 (B); and

9 “(ii) is located not more than 100
10 miles from the location in which the appli-
11 cable covered event is or will be held;

12 “(D) an entity eligible to receive a grant
13 under section 5339 for services provided within
14 100 miles of the location in which the applica-
15 ble covered event is or will be held; or

16 “(E) a nonprofit entity established for exe-
17 cution of a covered event.

18 “(3) HOST METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANI-
19 ZATION.—The term ‘host metropolitan planning or-
20 ganization’ means a metropolitan planning organiza-
21 tion for an urbanized area (as defined in section
22 134(b) of title 23) within which a covered event is
23 or will be held.

24 “(4) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian Tribe’
25 has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the

1 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
2 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

3 “(5) METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZA-
4 TION.—The term ‘metropolitan planning organiza-
5 tion’ has the meaning given the term in section
6 134(b) of title 23.

7 “(6) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means
8 the Secretary of Transportation.

9 “(c) GRANTS FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS RE-
10 LATING TO INTERNATIONAL GAMES.—

11 “(1) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—For each fiscal
12 year, the Secretary shall allocate the amounts made
13 available to the Secretary to carry out this sub-
14 section as follows:

15 “(A) First, the Secretary shall allocate
16 those amounts equally among the host metro-
17 politan planning organizations for the most im-
18 minent covered event and any other covered
19 events occurring during the same fiscal year,
20 subject to the condition that a host metropoli-
21 tan planning organization may not receive more
22 than \$10,000,000 under this subparagraph for
23 a single covered event.

24 “(B) Once the host metropolitan planning
25 organizations described in subparagraph (A)

1 have each been allocated a total of \$10,000,000
2 under this subsection for each covered event de-
3 scribed in that subparagraph, including any
4 amounts for previous fiscal years allocated for
5 the same covered event, the Secretary shall allo-
6 cate any remaining amounts—

7 “(i) first, equally among all host met-
8 ropolitan planning organizations eligible to
9 receive assistance under this subsection for
10 a covered event not described in subpara-
11 graph (A), subject to the condition that a
12 host metropolitan planning organization
13 may not receive more than \$10,000,000
14 under this clause for a single covered
15 event; and

16 “(ii) once the host metropolitan plan-
17 ning organizations described in clause (i)
18 have each been allocated a total of
19 \$10,000,000 under this subsection for each
20 covered event described in that clause, in-
21 cluding any amounts for previous fiscal
22 years allocated for the same covered event,
23 equally among all host metropolitan plan-
24 ning organizations eligible to receive assist-
25 ance under this subsection.

1 “(2) USE OF FUNDS.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A host metropolitan
3 planning organization receiving amounts under
4 paragraph (1) may use the amounts to provide
5 funding to eligible entities to carry out projects
6 described in subparagraph (B) that—

7 “(i) are located not more than 100
8 miles from the location in which the appli-
9 cable covered event is or will be held; and

10 “(ii) in the determination of the host
11 metropolitan planning organization, are
12 not temporary infrastructure needed for
13 hosting the covered event.

14 “(B) PROJECT DESCRIBED.—A project re-
15 ferred to in subparagraph (A) is any of the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(i) A transportation project that—

18 “(I) is eligible for assistance
19 under any provision of this title or
20 title 23; and

21 “(II) in the determination of the
22 host metropolitan planning organiza-
23 tion, will assist with the movement of
24 people or goods related to the applica-
25 ble covered event.

1 “(ii) A transportation planning activ-
2 ity that, in the determination of the host
3 metropolitan planning organization, will
4 assist with the movement of people and
5 goods for the applicable covered event.

6 “(3) REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements de-
7 scribed in section 6701 (n) shall apply to a project
8 described in paragraph (2) that is funded by a grant
9 under this subsection.

10 “(4) LIMITATIONS.—

11 “(A) ALLOCATIONS.—For purposes of the
12 allocation of amounts under paragraph (1), a
13 host metropolitan planning organization is eligi-
14 ble to receive assistance under this subsection
15 only during the period beginning on the date
16 that is 5 years before the date on which a cov-
17 ered event begins and ending on the date that
18 is 30 days after the date on which the covered
19 event ends.

20 “(B) REIMBURSEMENTS.—Notwith-
21 standing subparagraph (A), but subject to sub-
22 paragraph (C), the Secretary shall provide,
23 from amounts allocated to the applicable host
24 metropolitan planning organization under para-
25 graph (1), reimbursements for activities de-

1 scribed in paragraph (2) that are carried out
2 during the period described in subparagraph
3 (A).

4 “(C) RELEASE OF FUNDS.—Any amounts
5 allocated under paragraph (1) that are not ex-
6 pended by the date that is 1 year after the date
7 on which the applicable covered event ends shall
8 be reallocated in accordance with paragraph
9 (1).

10 “(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
11 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
12 retary to carry out this subsection \$50,000,000 for
13 each fiscal year, to remain available until expended.

14 “(d) TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, on request,
16 shall provide technical and planning assistance to el-
17 igible entities, including—

18 “(A) by providing technical assistance for
19 planning activities of States, Indian Tribes,
20 units of local government, and metropolitan
21 planning organizations under sections 134 and
22 135 of title 23 and sections 5303, 5304, and
23 5305 of this title for transportation projects re-
24 lating to a covered event;

1 “(B) by assisting States, Indian Tribes,
2 units of local government, and metropolitan
3 planning organizations with the development of
4 intermodal transportation plans;

5 “(C) by facilitating programs or providing
6 incentives to temporarily pool and share, for the
7 duration of a covered event, buses and related
8 equipment among—

9 “(i) States, Indian Tribes, and units
10 of local government hosting or supporting
11 a covered event; and

12 “(ii) States, Indian Tribes, and units
13 of local government not hosting or sup-
14 porting a covered event;

15 “(D) by expediting review and comment of
16 any required submissions to the Secretary relat-
17 ing to a covered event;

18 “(E) by assisting with the coordination of
19 transportation planning efforts between govern-
20 ments or the private sector; and

21 “(F) by providing any other technical or
22 planning assistance the Secretary determines to
23 be necessary for advancing the purpose of this
24 section described in subsection (a).

1 “(2) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall provide
 2 assistance under this subsection for a covered event
 3 only during the period beginning on the date that is
 4 5 years before the date on which the covered event
 5 begins and ending on the date that is 30 days after
 6 the date on which the covered event ends.”.

7 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
 8 ter 55 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by in-
 9 serting after the item relating to section 5501 the fol-
 10 lowing:

“5502. Transportation assistance for international sporting events.”.

11 **SEC. 3. STUDIES ON THE EFFECTS OF HOSTING THE OLYM-**
 12 **PICS AND WORLD CUP ON THE TRAVEL AND**
 13 **TOURISM INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES.**

14 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEES.—The term
 16 “Local Planning Committees” means the World Cup
 17 planning committees specific to each World Cup host
 18 city.

19 (2) OLYMPICS.—The term “Olympics” means
 20 the 2028 Summer Olympics and 2028 Paralympics,
 21 both hosted by Los Angeles, California.

22 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
 23 the Secretary of Commerce.

1 (4) TRAVEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY.—The
2 term “travel and tourism industry” means the travel
3 and tourism industry in the United States.

4 (5) WORLD CUP.—The term “World Cup”
5 means the 2026 Men’s FIFA World Cup, hosted by
6 the United States, Mexico, and Canada.

7 (b) DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE STUDY AND RE-
8 PORT ON EFFECTS ON TRAVEL AND TOURISM OF
9 HOSTING THE OLYMPICS.—

10 (1) STUDY.—Not later than 90 days after the
11 date of enactment of this Act and after consultation
12 with the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory
13 Board and the United States Olympic Planning
14 Committee, the Secretary shall, subject to the avail-
15 ability of appropriations, commence a study to exam-
16 ine the impact of the Olympics on the travel and
17 tourism industry, including—

18 (A) changes in the frequency of inter-
19 national travel to the United States;

20 (B) changes in the frequency of domestic
21 travel within the United States;

22 (C) changes in the revenues of businesses
23 in the travel and tourism industry; and

24 (D) changes in employment rates in the
25 travel and tourism industry.

1 (2) REPORT.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
3 days after the conclusion of the Olympics, the
4 Secretary shall submit to the Committee on
5 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
6 Senate and the Committee on Energy and Com-
7 merce of the House of Representatives a report
8 containing the results of the study conducted
9 under paragraph (1).

10 (B) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall
11 make the report described in subparagraph (A)
12 publicly available on the website of the Depart-
13 ment of Commerce.

14 (c) DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE STUDY AND RE-
15 PORT ON EFFECTS ON TRAVEL AND TOURISM OF
16 HOSTING THE WORLD CUP.—

17 (1) STUDY.—Not later than 90 days after the
18 date of enactment of this Act and after consultation
19 with the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory
20 Board and Local Planning Committees, the Sec-
21 retary shall, subject to the availability of appropria-
22 tions, commence a study to examine the impact of
23 the World Cup on the travel and tourism industry,
24 including—

1 (A) changes in the frequency of inter-
2 national travel to the United States;

3 (B) changes in the frequency of domestic
4 travel within the United States;

5 (C) changes in the revenues of businesses
6 in the travel and tourism industry; and

7 (D) changes in employment rates in the
8 travel and tourism industry.

9 (2) REPORT.—

10 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
11 days after the conclusion of the World Cup, the
12 Secretary shall submit to the Committee on
13 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
14 Senate and the Committee on Energy and Com-
15 merce of the House of Representatives a report
16 containing the results of the study conducted
17 under paragraph (1).

18 (B) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall
19 make the report described in subparagraph (A)
20 publicly available on the website of the Depart-
21 ment of Commerce.

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